

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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EXDIS

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS:PFOR, UR, US

SUBJECT: WORKING LUNCH WITH KORNIYENKO

REF: MOSCOW 18495

1. USDA AND DEPARTMENT BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL, IF OPPORTUNITY ARISES, TO EXPRESS DISAPPOINTMENT REGARDING INFORMATION ASPECT OF US-USSR AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING AND TO DISCUSS RESULTS DRAWING ON MATERIAL CONTAINED STATE 272037, WHICH CAN BE SUPPLEMENTED BY SOL POLANSKY WHO ATTENDED MEETING AND IS NOW IN MOSCOW.

2. SOVIET EMBASSY PROJECT:

A. THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS) HAS BEEN FUNDED BY THE USG AND THE CONTRACT WAS AWARDED ON NOVEMBER 27. A STATUS REPORT WILL BE MADE TO THE NATIONAL CAPITAL PLANNING COMMISSION (NCPC) ON JANUARY 9 AND A PUBLIC MEETING TO RECEIVE COMMENTS WILL FOLLOW ON JANUARY 14. ON FEBRUARY 10 THE PRELIMINARY DRAFT OF THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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EIS IS TO BE READY AND THE DRAFT WILL BE ISSUED ON

FEBRUARY 19. AT THAT POINT, THE SOVIETS CAN GO FORWARD WITH FURTHER PLANNING ON PRELIMINARY SITE AND BUILDING PLANS, WHICH ARE TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE NCPC ON MARCH 6. THE FINAL EIS IS SCHEDULED TO BE ISSUED ON APRIL 21. ON MAY 28 AN NCPC SUBCOMMITTEE WILL REVIEW FINAL SITE AND BUILDING PLANS AND THESE, SUPPORTED BY THE EIS, WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE NCPC ON MAY 29 FOR DECISION.

B. ABOVE WAS REVIEWED WITH SOVIETS AT DEC. 10 MEETING ARRANGED BY DEPT FOR SOVIET ARCHITECTS, EIS CONTRACTOR (EDAW, INC.), NCPC, GSA AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES. EDAW IS NOW IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH THE SOVIETS AND APPEARS TO HAVE IMPRESSED THEM WITH THE FIRM'S DETERMINATION TO PRESS AHEAD WITH EIS ON ACCELERATED BASIS. IN SHORT, PROJECT IS MOVING AND THE SOVIETS, AT LEAST IN WASHINGTON, SEEMED PLEASED. HOWEVER, SCHEDULE IS TENTATIVE AND ASSUMES NO LITIGATION RE EIS NOR SERIOUS PROBLEM IN PREPARATION OF SOVIET PLANS.

C. SHOULD THE SOVIETS ASK HOW SOON THEY WILL BE PERMITTED TO BREAK GROUND, YOU CAN SAY THIS SHOULD BECOME CLEARER WITHIN COMING WEEKS. SHOULD THEY ASK WHETHER WE INTEND TO INSIST ON STRICTLY PHASED CONSTRUCTION OF US AND SOVIET PROJECTS, YOU CAN SAY THAT WE EXPECT CONSTRUCTION TO PROCEED ACCORDING TO THE AGREEMENT ON CONDITIONS ON CONSTRUCTION. (FYI: DEPART. IS STILL STUDYING THE QUESTION OF LINKAGE.)

3. US EMBASSY PROJECT: THE CHIEF SOVIET ARCHITECT WAS SCHEDULED TO RETURN TO MOSCOW ON DECEMBER 13 AND HE HAS PROMISED TO CONSULT WITH VORONIN ON STATUS OF BID FOR TEST BORINGS. AMERICAN ARCHITECTS PLAN TO BE IN MOSCOW AROUND MID-FEBRUARY TO PRESENT FIRST-STAGE PLANS, WHICH SOVIETS HAVE ALREADY PRESENTED HERE, AS A FOLLOW-UP TO OUR USE-OF-SITE PRESENTATION LAST MARCH.

4. KIEV: WE PLAN TO GIVE THE SOVIET EMBASSY HERE A NOTE BEFORE THE HOLIDAYS SETTING OUT OUR PROPERTY REQUIREMENTS IN KIEV. FYI: THE PROPOSAL DESCRIBED IN MEMORANDUM DATED 18 NOVEMBER 1974 IS BEING CLEARED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WITH ONLY MINOR MODIFICATIONS. END FYI. WE ARE STILL AWAITING A SOVIET RESPONSE TO OUR PROPOSAL ON KIEV-NEW YORK CONSULAR DISTRICTS.

5. MULTIPLE ENTRY VISAS FOR JOURNALISTS AND BUSINESSMEN:

A. YOU MIGHT WISH AGAIN TO RAISE POSSIBILITY OF AGREEMENT ON RECIPROCAL ISSUANCE OF MULTIPLE ENTRY-EXIT VISAS

TO PERMANENTLY STATIONED JOURNALISTS (WITH EXCEPTION OF JOURNALISTS ACCREDITED TO UN)

B. IF KORNIYENKO BRINGS UP SIMILAR PRIVILEGES FOR PERMANENTLY STATIONED BUSINESS VISITORS, YOU COULD REFER TO THE IMBALANCE -- 78 SOVIETS IN THE US VERSUS HALF A DOZEN AMERICANS IN THE USSR WHO DO NOT NOW HAVE SUCH PRIVILEGES,

BUT COULD DISCUSS ISSUE ON BROADER, OF COURSE, RECIPROCAL BASIS (I.E. SOME ARRANGEMENT WHICH WOULD COVER APPROXIMATELY EQUAL NUMBERS ON BOTH SIDES). FYI: AN ALTERNATIVE APPROACH, WHICH MAY BE PREFERABLE, WOULD BE TO NEGOTIATE AGREEMENT FOR COMMERCIAL REPRESENTATIVES IN CONTEXT OF JOINT COMMERCIAL COMMISSION IN HOPE OF OBTAINING SOVIET CONCESSIONS ON OTHER BUSINESS FACILITATION ISSUES.

6. COMMERCIAL VISA PROCEDURES AND TRAVEL CONTROLS:

A. IF KORNIYENKO COMPLAINS ABOUT COMMERCIAL VISA PROCEDURES, YOU MAY DRAW UPON THE MATERIAL PREPARED FOR THE VLADIVOSTOK BRIEFING BOOK, INCLUDING THE PAPER ON TRAVEL CONTROLS. YOU COULD COMMENT THAT THE NEW VISA PROCEDURES ARE DESIGNED TO FACILITATE PROCESSING OF VISAS AND CLEARANCE OF TRAVEL OF SOVIET COMMERCIAL VISITORS. THEY ARE NO MORE RESTRICTIVE THAN HERETOFORE AND WE HOPE THAT BETTER INFORMATION WILL EVENTUALLY PERMIT US TO SHORTEN THE PERIOD FOR VISA PROCESSING. YOU COULD ALSO NOTE THE INCREASING NUMBER OF CLOSED AREA EXCEPTIONS BEING REQUESTED BY THE MFA ON BEHALF OF COMMERCIAL VISITORS, SAYING YOU ARE GLAD THAT WE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO GRANT THEM AND EXPRESSING HOPE SOVIETS WILL OPERATE SIMILARLY.

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B. FYI: DEPARTMENT IS IN PROCESS OF PREPARING FULL REPLY TO MOSCOW 18151, INCLUDING ANALYSIS OF POSSIBLE ALTERNATIVE COURSES OF ACTION. HOWEVER, WE ARE PLEASED TO NOTE THAT MFA INCREASINGLY IS COMPLYING WITH REQUIREMENT THAT MFA SPECIFICALLY REQUEST CLOSED AREA EXCEPTIONS.

7. EXIM BANK: THE HOUSE-SENATE CONFEREES AGREED WEDNESDAY ON A NEW EXIM CONFERENCE REPORT SPECIFYING A \$300 MILLION CEILING ON LOANS TO THE SOVIET UNION WITH PRESIDENTIAL WAIVER WITHOUT NUMERICAL LIMITATION, BUT REQUIRING CONCURRENT RESOLUTION OF BOTH HOUSES APPROVING THE WAIVER. EVEN THOUGH THIS IS MORE FLEXIBLE THAN THE TWO-TIERED \$300 MILLION PLUS \$300 MILLION WE HAD HOPED FOR, HARRY BYRD HAS SPECIFICALLY ENDORSED THE CONFERENCE COMPROMISE. THE ONLY POSSIBLE CLOUD ON THE HORIZON IS

SENATOR PROXIMIRE WHO WOULD SEEK TO PUT THE BANK'S
AUTHORIZATION INTO THE PRESIDENT'S BUDGET. HIS PROPOSAL
HAS SOME LIMITED SUPPORT BUT NONE OF OUR SOURCES BELIEVE
THAT HE CAN BLOCK THE BILL NOW. BOTH HOUSES WILL ACT
ON THE CONFERENCE REPORT NEXT WEEK. FINAL APPROVAL HAS
BEEN DELAYED BY PROXIMIRE'S FILIBUSTER AGAINST THE
CONFERENCE REPORT. A CLOTURE VOTE WILL BE TAKEN
DECEMBER 14, 1974.

8. TRADE REFORM ACT: REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE BILL
FOLLOWS BY SEPTEL TO ALL POSTS AND SEPARATE REPORT ON
JACKSON-VANIK AMENDMENT FOLLOWS BY SEPTEL TO MOSCOW AND
OTHER INTERESTED POSTS. INGERSOLL

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